GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:493
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2016
Unfair Practices to Promote Medicines
Ajmal Maulana Badruddin

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the Indian Drugs Manufactures Association (IDMA) has laid down certain norms with regard to marketing practices for pharmaceutical companies in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the pharmaceutical companies are indulging in unfair practices to promote their medicines by sponsoring trips and offering gifts to doctors;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to stop such unfair practices in the country;

(d) whether the Government has proposed any new code of conduct for the marketing of drugs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a): The Indian Drugs Manufacturers Association (IDMA) is an association of private pharmaceutical manufacturers and the Government is not involved in the conduct of its affairs.

(b): The Department of Pharmaceuticals has informed that there were some reports of Pharmaceutical Companies indulging in unfair practices to promote their medicines.

(c) to (e): The Department of Pharmaceuticals announced a Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) w.e.f. 1st January, 2015 to curb unfair practices.